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November 4th, 1851.

Vice-President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Letters were read :

From Isaac Chipman, Esq., dated Acadia College, October 3d, 1851, acknowledging the receipt of his notice of election as a Correspondent, and announcing that he had transmitted a box of minerals from his vicinity for the Academy.

From the Librarian of the British Museum, dated October 7th, 1851, acknowledging the receipt of No. 9, Vol. 5, of the Proceedings.

From Mr. William H. Towson, of Philadelphia, stating that the collection of minerals belonging to the late Dr. William Gambel, was for sale. Referred to the Mineralogical Committee.

Dr. Leidy observed that he had examined the fossil saurian bones, consisting of two teeth, two vertebræ, a fragment of a rib and an ungual phalanx, presented to the Academy October 21st, by Mr. Robert H. Nash, who obtained them from the Miocene formation of Westmoreland county, Virginia. Dr. Leidy found them to belong to a new extinct species of Crocodile, for which he proposed the name of *Crocodylus antiquus*.

Mr. Theodore F. Moss read some remarks on the Geology of Texas.

Dr. Fisher announced that the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania had granted the use of the College Hall to the Academy, for the purpose of hearing the Memoir of the late Dr. Morton read by Dr. Meigs.

November 11th.

Vice-President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Dr. Le Conte, of New York, read a paper, intended for publication in the Proceedings, entitled "Synopsis of the species of *Dona-*cia, by John L. Le Conte, M.D.," which was referred to a Committee consisting of Dr. Leidy, Dr. Hallowell, and Mr. Haldeman.

Dr. Le Conte read a second paper, also intended for publication in the Proceedings, entitled "Zoological Notes," which was likewise referred to the above Committee.

A letter was read from Mr. Alexander Vattermare, dated Paris, October 19th, 1851, announcing that he had addressed to the Academy a box, containing three crania, procured from the Museum of Natural History of Paris, at the request of the late Dr. Morton, and calling the attention of the Academy to the importance of a universal system of international exchanges between scientific institutions.

Letters were also read :—

From the Trustees of the New York State Library, dated Albany, November 3d, 1851, acknowledging the receipt of No. 10, Vol. 5, of the Proceedings.

From the Librarian of the Boston Society of Natural History,

dated November 5th, 1851, requesting certain numbers of the Proceedings of the Academy necessary to complete the series in the Library of that institution.

From Dr. J. L. Burtt, U. S. N., dated U. S. Naval Hospital, New York, November 8th, 1851, acknowledging the receipt of his notice of election as a Member.

Dr. Leidy presented a list of minerals offered by the Bavarian Government, and also a list of minerals of this country desired by the same in exchange. Referred to the Mineralogical Committee.

Dr. Leidy called the attention of the members to some fossil bones from the Miocene formation of Virginia, which he characterized as having belonged to two species of Whale, as follows:—

BALAENA PALÆATLANTICA, *Leidy*. This species is proposed upon a fragment of a lower jaw, a dorsal vertebra, and the zygomatic portion of the temporal bone. The specimens were discovered by Dr. R. Eppes in Virginia, and presented to Prof. W. E. Horner, to whom they belong. They were found in association with *Pecten Jeffersonius*, *Venus tridacnoides*, etc. The fragment of lower jaw, $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, is stout in its proportions, is relatively straight, with no tendency to curve downwards. In section it is vertically ellipsoid, but becomes more cylindroid anteriorly. Internally it is convex, externally demicylindroid. The upper margin is elevated, obtuse, and irregular. Just within it, in the specimen, situated about two inches apart, are three gingival foramina, about four lines in diameter, and slightly oblique forwards in their direction. External to the upper margin at the anterior half of the specimen, about one inch apart, are two large labial foramina, one four lines, the other five lines in diameter, directed very obliquely forward.

Measurements of the fragment.

	Post.	Ant.
Vertical diameter,	$4\frac{1}{2}$ inches,	$3\frac{1}{2}$ inches.
Transverse “	$2\frac{3}{4}$ “	3 “ 10 lines.

The dorsal vertebra indicates an adult animal. Its articular faces are flat and compressed circular. The transverse processes and neural arch are broken away.

Measurements.

Length of the body,	$6\frac{3}{4}$ inches.
Breadth “	ant. 6, post. 7 “
Depth “	“ $5\frac{1}{2}$, “ 6 “
Breadth of transverse process,	$4\frac{1}{2}$ “
“ neural arch,	$4\frac{1}{2}$ “
“ spinal canal,	$2\frac{1}{4}$ “

BALAENA PRISCA, *Leidy*. This species is proposed upon a fragment of a lower jaw and a caudal vertebra, found in association with *Crocodylus antiquus*, *Pecten Jeffersonius*, &c., in Westmoreland county, Virginia. The specimens were obtained by Mr. Robert H. Nash, and presented by him to the Academy.

The fragment of lower jaw, fourteen inches long, is of much more slender pro-

portions than that of the preceding, it is also more uniform in its breadth and depth, and has a strong curve downwards as in *B. rorqual*, *Lac.* It is very nearly flat internally and demi-cylindrical externally. The upper margin is angular but not prominent, and forms the boundary between the inner and outer side. The gingival foramina, five in number in the specimen, are placed below the upper margin internally, are about one line in diameter, and open very obliquely forward into grooves almost horizontal, from half an inch to one inch long. The labial foramina of which there are the remains of seven in the specimen, are about half an inch external to the upper margin, are about two lines in diameter, and open very obliquely forward.

Measurements of the fragment.

Vertical diameter,	3 inches.
Transverse "	2 "

The caudal vertebra found associated with the above fragment, and which I suppose to belong to the same animal, is adult, and indicates a larger species than the *B. palæatlantica*, for it is as large as the dorsal vertebra of the latter. Its articular faces are subcircular, and are moderately convex. The transverse processes and neural arch are broken away in the specimen, as is also the case with the abutments of the chevron bone. The transverse processes have their origin $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches posterior to the anterior articular face.

Measurements.

Length of the body,	$6\frac{1}{2}$ inches.
Breadth of anterior articular face,	$6\frac{1}{2}$ "
Depth " " "	6 "
Breadth of transverse process,	4 "
" neural arch,	$3\frac{3}{4}$ "
" spinal canal,	7 lines.

Dr. Fisher, on behalf of the Committee on the Memoir of Dr. Morton, announced that it had been read by Dr. Meigs on Thursday evening last, Nov. 6th, 1851, at the Hall of the University of Pennsylvania.

Whereupon the following resolutions were offered, and unanimously adopted :—

Resolved, That the sincere thanks of this Society are due, and are hereby presented to Dr. Charles D. Meigs, for his able and highly appropriate Memoir of its late President, Dr. Samuel George Morton, read before the Society on the 6th inst., at the Hall of the University of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That the Memoir be published, and that the Committee on Proceedings have charge of the same.

November 18th.

Vice President BRIDGES in the Chair.

A letter was read from the Asiatic Society of Bengal, dated Calcutta, May 9th, 1851, acknowledging the receipt of Part 1, Vol. 2, new series of the Journal.